

REMARKS**1. Summary of Office Action**


In the Office Action mailed July 22, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 8-17, 21, and 24. The Examiner also objected to claims 3, 5-7, 18-20, 22, and 23 as depending from a rejected base claims, but indicated that they would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

2. Applicants' Amendments

Applicants have canceled claims 1, 2, 4, 8-17, 21, and 24, and have rewritten claims 3, 5-7, 18-20, 22, and 23 to be in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the presently pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and Applicants respectfully request prompt favorable reconsideration. If there are any matters that may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully Submitted,
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

Date: October 24, 2005

By 
Marcus J. Thymian
Reg. No. 43,954

McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP
300 South Wacker Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60606
Telephone: (312) 913-0001
Facsimile: (312) 913-0002